



# Stockpile Abatement & Scrap Tire Fires

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# Stockpiled Tires

- Not limited to abandoned facilities
- Can be shredded or whole tires
- Enforcement plays key role in limiting extent of pile size
- Expect non-tire material buried in pile



# Factors to be Wary of (in operating facilities)

- Decreasing shred quality
- Increasing piles
- Reduction in work force
- Increased “down” time of equipment
- Increased permit violations
- Sudden change in ownership



# Causes of Stockpile Fires

- Arson (by owner/operator) brought on from fear of state actions
  - Pending legal actions
  - cost to be incurred if they have to abate pile
  - Acts of defiance
  - Reducing number of tires to abate



# Causes of Stockpile Fires

- Arson
  - From attention by media
  - By anyone with something to hide
- Equipment malfunction
- Industrial Accidents
- Acts of God



# Tale-Tell Signs of Fires in Stockpiles

- Presence of partially burned tires
- In shredded piles: oily run-off
- Sink holes along the surface
- In cold weather, vapor from pile



# Planning Considerations

- Factor precautionary planning into your management scheme
  - Prevention schemes
  - Fire fighting tactics
  - Post-incident issues



# Prevention Planning

- Limit media coverage
  - Attention draws ‘them’ out
- Provide on-site security
  - Beware of “hero-syndrome”
- Remove sources of ignition
  - Sources of combustion
  - Sources of ignition



# Training Programs

- State or contractor should work with local fire departments
- Most fire departments underestimate the intensity of a tire fire
- Most fire departments overestimate their ability to fight the fire



# Training Programs

- State or contractor should coordinate a fire prevention/fire fighting seminar for local fire departments
- Training of on-site personnel a “must”
- Training programs are available from RMA

**FEEL THE HEAT**





# Stockpiled Tire Reality

Plan On...

Anything that can go wrong  
will go wrong and it will occur  
at the worst possible moment



# Rubber Manufacturers Association

Guidelines for the Prevention &  
Management of Scrap Tire Fires

**[WWW.RMA/SCRAP\\_TIRES.ORG](http://WWW.RMA/SCRAP_TIRES.ORG)**